

Improving Reading and Math Skills through the Arts

Some Elements (RAMparts) of the RAM Initiative

(which, we're sure, will become RAMpant as you RAMify these RAMbunctious ideas in your teaching)

RAMTeam



A RAM team is composed of a specialist from Math, Reading/Writing, one of the Arts, a counselor-type, a classroom teacher, a PTA volunteer and an administrator. RAM teams can be created on the local, district and State level, or any mix upward from the local level.

RAM Teaching



The RAM team creates strategies and lesson plans that will show the classroom teacher how to best use one of the Arts to practice and improve Math and Reading/Writing skills. These plans look to significant learning in the Arts as well as in either Math or Reading/Writing.

RAMIMaterials



One of the missions of the RAM team is to prepare resource materials to support the classroom teacher and his/her students while trying to use the RAM program. These materials will have an emphasis on meaningful cross-core references.

RAMExtra-Curricular



Another key thrust of the RAM team is to assist the local PTA or parent group to organize and teach art classes (extracurricular) with the same goal of improving Math and Reading/Writing skills. These classes will create another venue for practice and skill development in Reading/Writing and Math.

RAMCares



The RAM team strategy addresses the social skills and emotional intelligence of the students. Students will not work at peak efficiency if they are not comfortable with themselves and others. The development of social and emotional skills that assist students in an educational setting will be included.

RAMShows



The culmination of activities in the Arts is the performance/exhibit. The RAM team will use the entire school, its grounds, and scheduled events to creatively showcase what the students have accomplished both in the Arts and in Reading/Writing and Math.